TOKYOPOP

DEMON DIARY

1

Art by Kara

Story by Lee Chi Hyong

Wow!
Is all this...
...really mine?
Yes, sire. Now that you are part of the elite...
...you no longer need live with vermin.
There is nothing ordinary about you anymore.
For what could be ordinary about...

...a demon lord?
DEMON DIARY
마왕일기
그림 / 카라 글 / 이지형

Hey, I took this job for the free food and housing, but...
...I'm not exactly sure what I've signed up for.
You've heard tales of ancient knights, have you not?
Yessir.
You need only emulate the demon lords of lore.
Of lore?
I should set fires, wreak havoc and conspire to take over the world?
I will kill you, vile demon!
Mooshahaha! Die, Fool!
Oh! Maybe kidnap a princess and get trounced by a knight!
Boo hoo hoo! Save me, gallant knight!

Like that?
Save for the trouncing, yes.
Really? But I don't know how to do any of that.
Lord, once you are made a demon lord...
...you inherit all the powers of the lord who came before you.
And the gods have chosen to doubly bless you!
There is absolutely nothing you cannot do.

You'll be fine.
I'm doubly blessed, mister?
.....
Now, I must ask you not to address me as "sir" or "mister."
How come?
A demon lord does not defer. A demon lord instills terror and exudes superiority.
I don't want to terrorize anybody, mister.
YOU WILL REIGN IN TERROR WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
To do otherwise would make a laughingstock of us both.
Well, exCUSE me, mist--
I mean--uh--sorry...Fella.

.....
I suppose that's better, but...
How can I make this clear?
A demon lord never apologizes, either. No matter what.
Why not...?
I have a funny feeling about this one...
Because a demon lord must appear wicked.
He's quite unlike his predecessor.
In an instance such as that of a moment ago, rather than apologize...
...it would be appropriate to adopt a haughty tone and ask,
"How dare YOU admonish ME, vermin?"
I suppose I don't know him well enough...yet.
Ahem.
Do you understand?
Yep. Piece of cake.
This does not bode well.

All right, then. Please go and get changed.
The induction ceremony will commence shortly.
Oh! The ceremony! I totally forgot.
How could you forget the induction ceremony?!
I'm sorry, sir, uh...
...I'll hurry!
I apologized again...
How dare YOU... admonish ME, VERMIN?

All right, just please hurry and get ready. I'll wait for you here.
All right— I did it!
Okay--how do I get to my room again?
For the LAST TIME--
Wherever you want to go within this castle, you need only picture it in your mind and say "go."
Sorry...
...how dare YOU admonish ME...vermin?
Pi
Pi
Pi
.....
I better split before Demon Grumpmeister goes ballistic.
Go!
Oh, this...this is going to be a long and difficult road...

Let's be off, then.
Okay. Thanks for waiting... Am I allowed to say thank you?
Eclipse...
It was my pleasure.
Ranked number four in existence, Eclipse is a demon of the highest order, with an impressive résumé.
He is currently Demon Lord Raenef's instructor.
Hey! Eclipse, you do know how to smile.
I'm not a Grumpmeister all the time.
Huh? How did you...?
I never said that out loud!
.....
So then...
...shall we?
Let's go.

?!

Lord Raeneeeeeef--

Harumph!

큭큭..
킄킄킄..

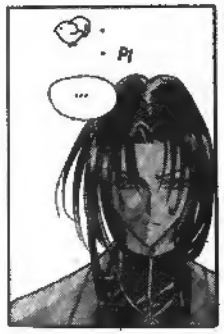
I beg you to remember your station and...
...your DIGNITY!!

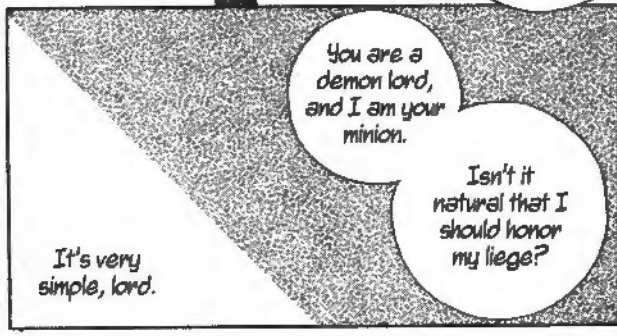
Okay!
GIGGLES?! A solemn occasion requires a solemn expression.
At least PRETEND to have a gloomy disposition in front of the senior demon lords.
Grump-meister...
Lord Raenef!!

Hey, Eclipse--
Yes.
Please do not say "hey," my lord.

How dare YOU admonish ME...?
HOW can I be of service, my lord?

How come you can call me "SIRE," but I can't call you "sir"?


Pi
...

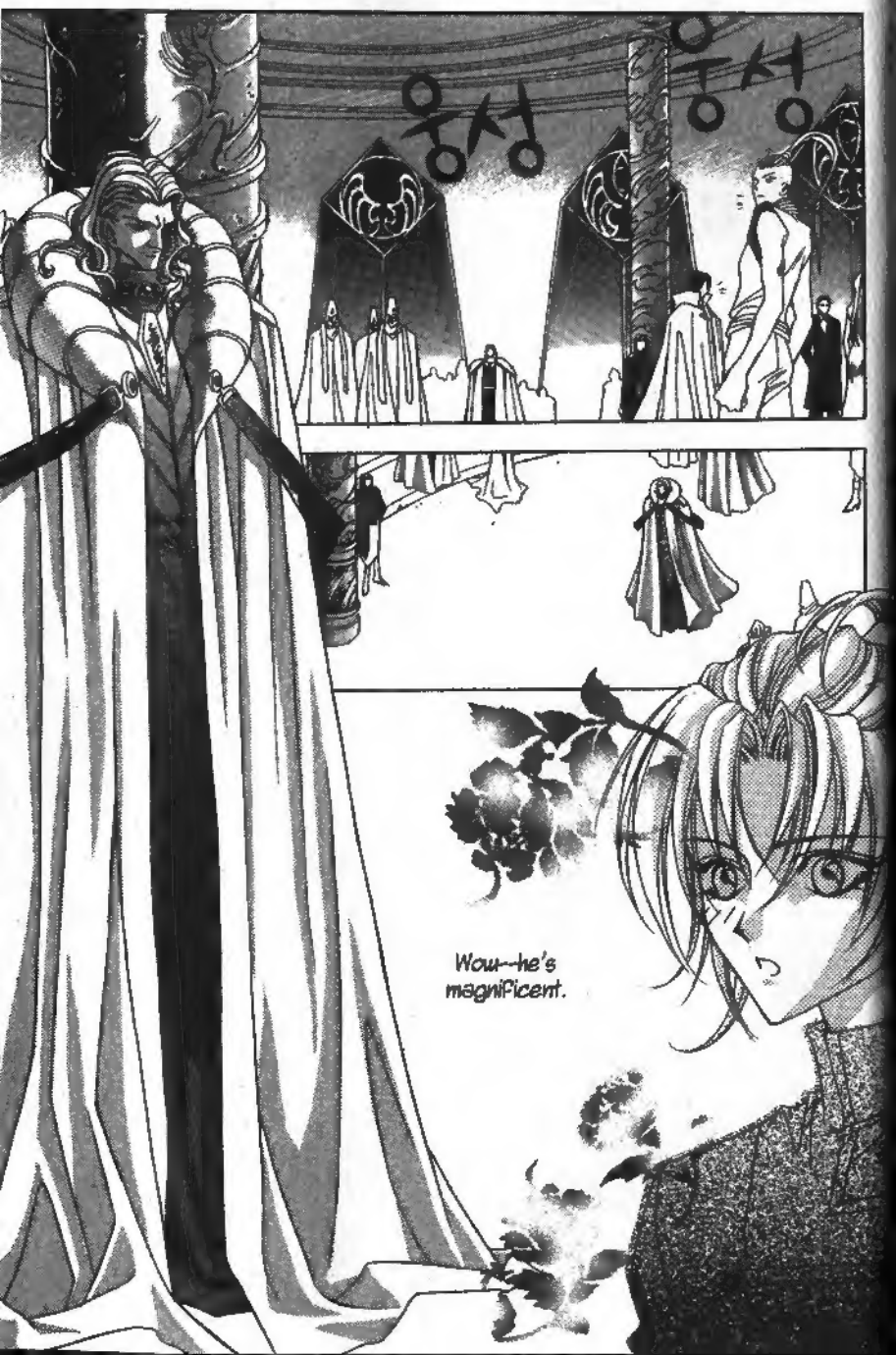

You are a demon lord, and I am your minion.
Isn't it natural that I should honor my liege?
It's very simple, lord.

So you work for me?
Yes, that is correct.

Says who?

That...
...was the will of the gods.
If you find me unsatisfactory, you may replace me with another demon.
No, no. That's not what I meant.
Who made me your boss?
That old fella who hired me?
He and his sister...
Odin, an "old fella"? Freya...? Oh, dear...

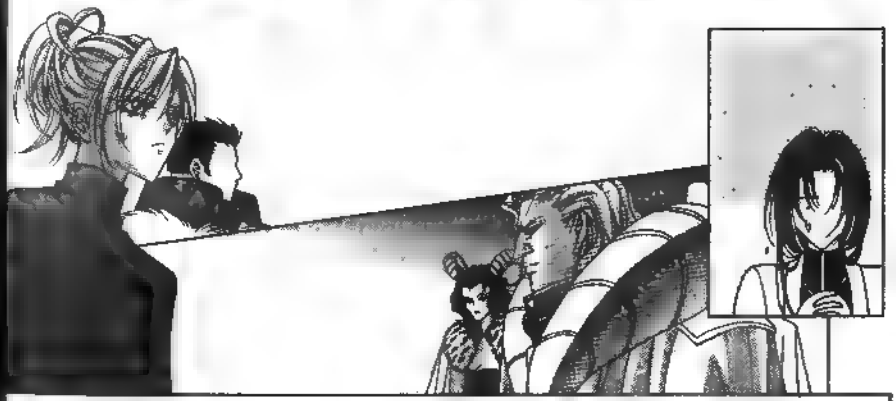
They put you to work for me?
Yes.
Couldn't we just work together as equals...
...instead of having one of us be the boss...?
I appreciate your concern, but you are a demon lord. I am merely a demon... Compared to you, I am merely--
Presenting... Lord Aureleid.


웅성
웅성
Wow--he's magnificent.

Who is he?
Aureleid, the foremost demon lord in existence.
He is over 70,000 years old.
He is the supreme demon lord...
...and he represents your kind.
Aha-- I see.
How fools rush in...

Now...
...we begin the introductions.
Junior demon lords, bow to your seniors.

Lord Raenef, your expression--
아



Please do not wreck this, Lord Raenef..
I'm honored, Your Most Rotten Demonships!

Demon Lords, horrified by what they've just seen...
???
And, of course Lord Clueless.
Ugh...
...was broken by Aurelia's hearty laughter...
Ha ha ha ha!
Har har har!
And that laughter infected the room.
Hee hee hee...!
Bwaah ha ha ha...!
The uncomfortable silence caused by Raenef's humble bow.

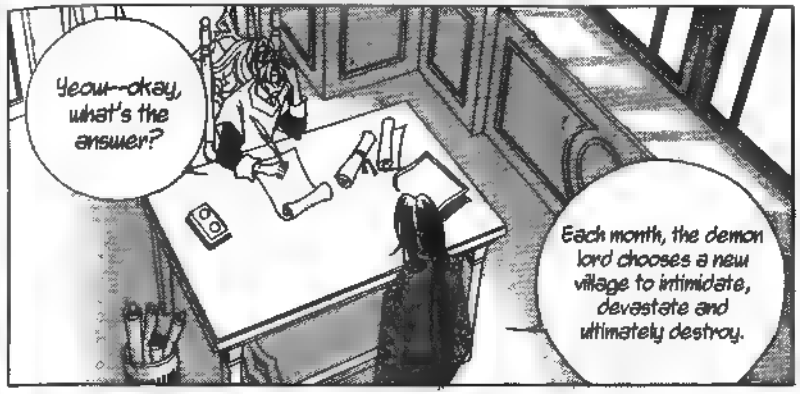
?
Did I do something wrong?
Lord Raenef! How many times have I told you: NEVER humble yourself?! Not even to other demon lords!
Huh? Wha- what's going on?
Lord Raenef! It's me, Eclipse. I'm using telepathy. Please, just listen.
Eclipse?
Lord Raenef, you must salvage your honor.
!
Leave it to me --
Somehow his confidence is NOT reassuring...
Ahem.
ahem.

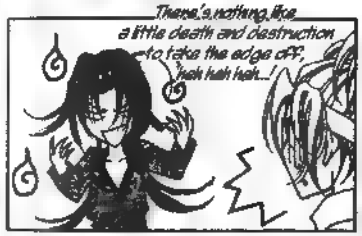
!!
How dare YOU mock ME, vermin?!!
Not bad, huh?
Speechless...
Speechless...

Heh heh heh..!
Eclipse, is that greenhorn your lord?
...
...Yes.
?
Ha ha ha! How perfectly ironic.
Eclipse, eminent and proud-- serving under a clown!
...
Oooh--

He may well make a joke of the entire lineage of demon lords!
Will Eclipse live to see the day when his lord eagerly strikes terror in the hearts of his subjects?
Indeed ..
It's a long road to being a demon lord ..but that went okay, right?
Eclipse will probably count himself lucky if Lord Raenef doesn't prance about merrily.. HELPING people.
Eclipse--
Master... um...

Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
BECOME THE BEST
DEMON LORD
The Magnificent Great Demon Lord, Raenef
Ow! That really hurt, Eclipse.
We agreed, five swats if you could not recite the precepts, remember?


Yeow--okay, what's the answer?
Each month, the demon lord chooses a new village to intimidate, devastate and ultimately destroy.


There's nothing like a little death and destruction to take the edge off. heh heh heh...!

...

Ahem.
Okay, next: What should you do if someone sees you taking a bath?
Oh! I remember that one.

Say "harumph" with aplomb, cast a faint prevention spell and then administer 99 wedgies. Finish by butchering him with a butter knife. Right?
Rote memorization.
I wish he wouldn't smile...
...
Yes...that's correct.
And what's with all the flowers?

One month since the induction ceremony of the demon lords ..
Next up...
Oh, the humiliation!
...
Eclipse, unfortunately, can't forget the incident
Serving under a clown
A demon lord called "clown"!! A loathsome insult!
From a distance--
Eclipse has been driven like a maniac ever since that ceremony--I wonder why?

That will be all of the demon lord code of conduct for today.
Next, lord, is your dark magic lesson.
BECOME THE BEST DEMON LORD
The Magnificent Great Demon Lord Raenac
How much magical energy have you gathered within your body?
About 40 mezraez*.
*a measurement of magical energy
Well, he hasn't been lazy--collecting 40 in one day isn't bad. He hasn't broken a sweat, either.
Impressive...
!
Hm.

Hey, wait just one minute--
Exactly why have you gathered 40 mezraez?
You shouldn't need more than eight at your level.
Oops. Really?
Yes, eight is more than enough for a beginning demon lord.
Isn't it better to have more?
You know... there's that saying. The, the...
The-the-the-the-the-the...
The more, the merrier?!
Exactly! It was on the tip of my tongue.
...

Sigh... all right.
Next time, lord, not so much mezraez, okay? Now, let's begin our studies.
Prince Innocence
Hee hee! Okay, okay.
Only a being with dark attributes can use dark magic. Naturally, someone without dark attributes cannot.
But the results wouldn't be worth the effort.
Some EXCEPTIONAL individuals without dark attributes...
...MAY be able to make a feeble attempt if they exert themselves.

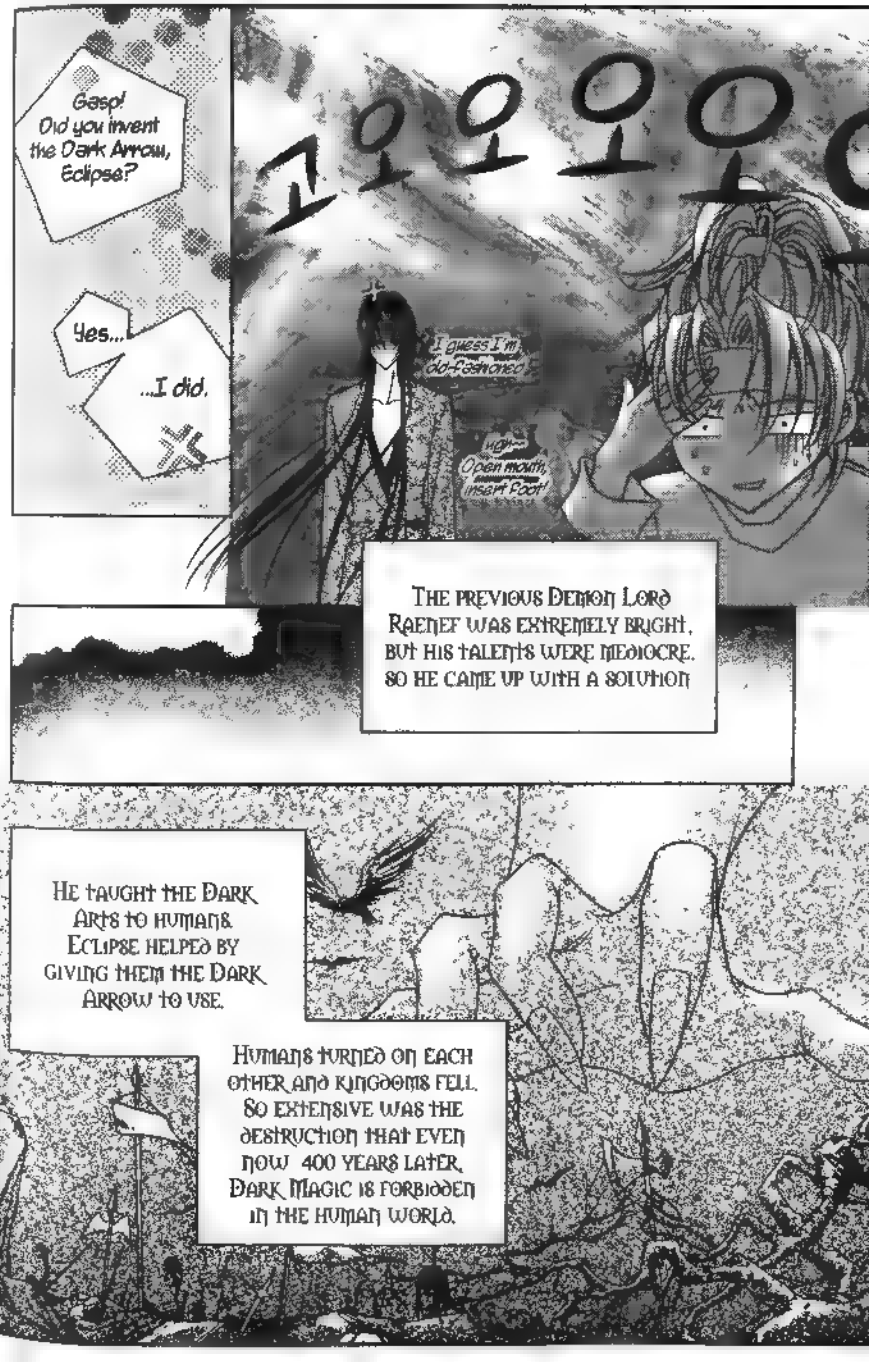
Question!
What's an attribute?
...
Yes?
An attribute is...
Wait...wait a sec! Let me write this down!!
Sure— if you can't use your brain, use your hands.
A living creature imitates the very first essence it encounters, and this experience determines that being's attributes.
The five possible attributes are: fire, water, wind, darkness and light
In rare incidences, the second substance encountered dominates over the first, and the secondary substance materializes, becoming that being's primary attribute.
...Huh? I don't get it!!

For example...
...Lord Raenef!
...
Tired?
Knuckle sandwiches for energy!
Then...
...we'll take a study break and begin our training session.
Really?
Yes. Follow me...
...to the garden. Picture the garden in your mind and say "go."

Magic begins...
...when you activate the mezraet stored in your body.
And it concludes when the mezraet become what you desire.
In order for the magic to work properly, you must focus your entire consciousness. If you don't...
...there could be unfortunate side effects.
Umm...
Yes.
Um... I just need to concentrate, right?
No words?
Usually, you see wizards casting spells with verses and magic wands...

You do not need incantations for dark magic.
Dark magic depends entirely upon attributes and mezraet.
Incantations are silly.
Hm. So...does that mean my attributes are dark?
Of course! You're a demon lord!!
How'd that happen?
Really?
Is he really this dimwitted?
...

Let's set aside our philosophy discussion for now...
...and learn some magic.
First, the Fundamentals.
Basic attack magic... Let's try the Dark Arrow.
It utilizes eight mezraez and the impact is SO...
The Dark Arrow?
Why such a corny name?
I'm sorry you disapprove.

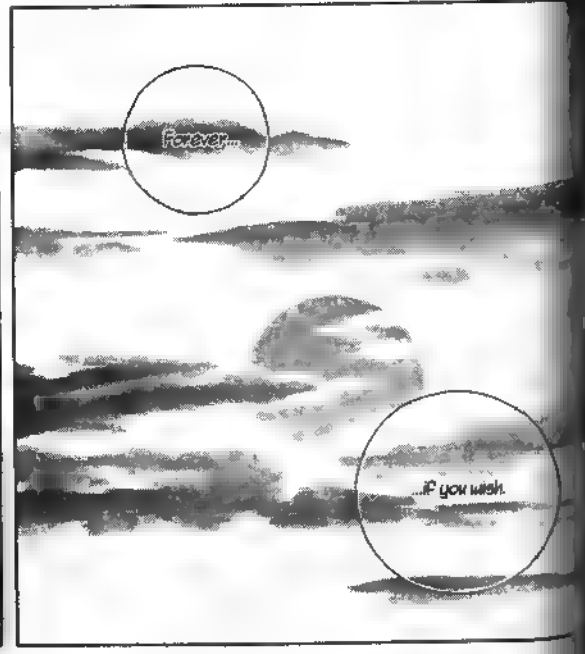

Gasp! Did you invent the Dark Arrow, Eclipse?
Yes...
...I did.
고오오오오
I guess I'm re-assured.
Open mouth, insert foot!
THE PREVIOUS DEMON LORD RAENEF WAS EXTREMELY BRIGHT, BUT HIS TALENTS WERE MEDIOCRE. SO HE CAME UP WITH A SOLUTION
HE TAUGHT THE DARK ARTS TO HUMANS. ECLIPSE HELPED BY GIVING THEM THE DARK ARROW TO USE.
HUMANS TURNED ON EACH OTHER AND KINGDOMS FELL. SO EXTENSIVE WAS THE DESTRUCTION THAT EVEN NOW 400 YEARS LATER, DARK MAGIC IS FORBIDDEN IN THE HUMAN WORLD.

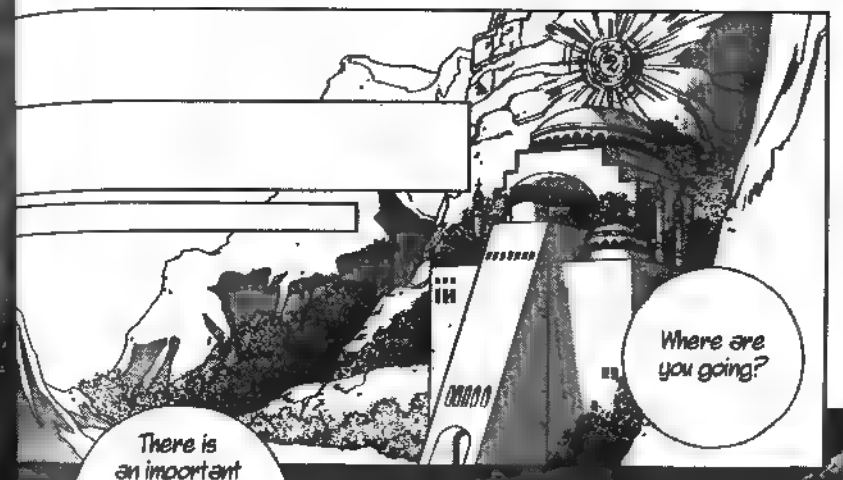
THE DARK ARROW IS EASY TO USE.
IT REQUIRES VERY FEW MEZRAEZ FOR A POWERFUL EFFECT
I'll teach it to you, but...
...
...do PAY ATTENTION. I won't repeat myself.
Uh...
Uh...
Eclipse...?
Are you mad?
I'm not mad.
...
But what's that on your head? There's THREE...
By "corny," I just meant--
I'M NOT MAD!
...

How...
...how dare you raise your voice to me?
흥
후하하하하하하하하하하
Huh? Eclipse...
...really, you're not mad?

Heh heh...
...how could I possibly stay angry with you, Lord Raenef?
He is...without a doubt... unconventional.
A demon lord, browbeaten by his subject...
Just get ready to practice your magic, please.
Whoever heard of a lovable demon lord...?

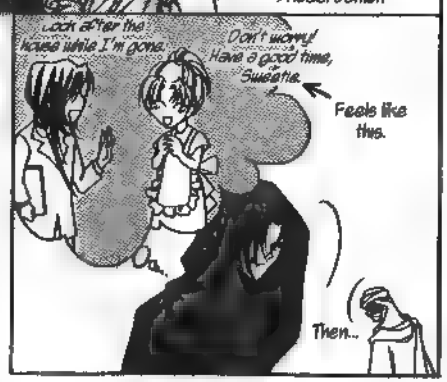
...
Lord Raenef?
Uh, nothing...
?
Gasp! Why can't I look him in the eye?
Eclipse?
Yes?
I... I won't let you down.
I'll do my best to become the greatest demon lord ever.
The "greatest"?!
Can you stay with me for as long as it takes?
Can you stay with me forever?

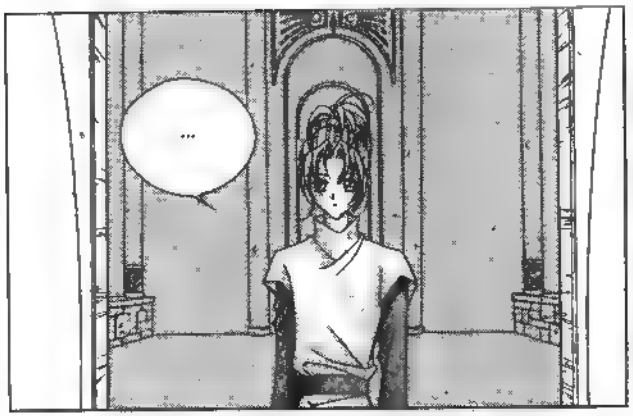

Forever...
...if you wish.


Where are you going?
There is an important meeting I must attend. I'm afraid I will be away for several days.

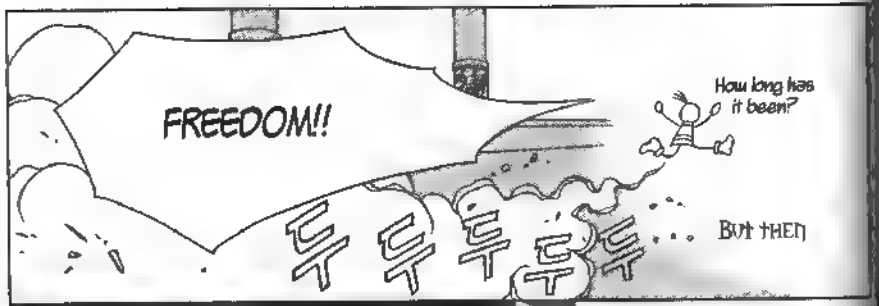
I wish it were otherwise, but my presence is required.
A local demon

Please do not neglect your studies.
Don't worry so much! Have fun.
And take your time!


Look after the house while I'm gone.
Don't worry! Have a good time, Sweetie.
Feels like this.
Then...


...

씨익


FREEDOM!!
How long has it been?
두두두둔둑...
But then

After a couple of days..
Ugh-- I'm bored.

I thought I could goof off while Eclipse was away, but...

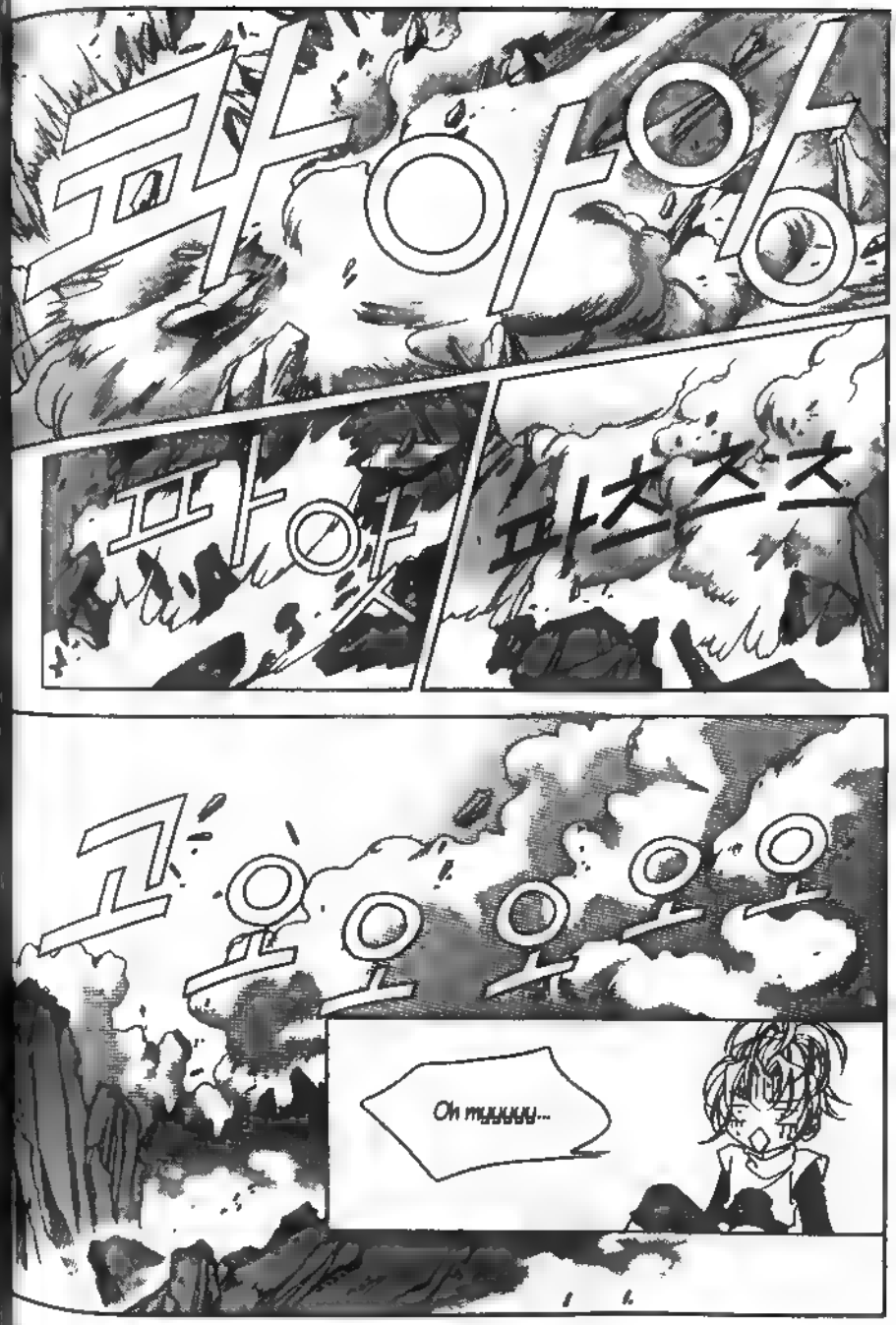
...there's only those creepy crusaders and me.
Damn-- I'm stuck here.

Raenef mastered several configurations of the Dark Arrow
...

Arrrgh-- BORing.

찌직
파직 찌직
Now what?

!!
Eeep!! Wha- what was that?


Oh mmmm...

...
Th-the mountain...
...is gone.

I hope...
...a knight comes to see what happened.

Aahhhhhk!

I thought I heard something...
Huh...?
Aahhhk!
That noise!
That was a crusader's scream! Eclipse left them to guard the castle...
What if...
That means... someone's inside the castle!
...the knights have come to challenge me?!

Wh-what am I gonna do?
They're gonna kill me! I'm gonna DIE!
Footsteps!

Hey, kid...
...who are you?
Kid?
What are you doing here?

우와아앗
I-I didn't do anything!
Click
What's with this kid?
What?
Dang! I sensed powerful magic here--I thought I'd find a demon lord, but...
...there's only this little kid!
Huh?

This must've been somebody's idea of a joke.
Or maybe the villagers saw those monsters and thought they were demon lords. Sheesh!
...
So, who are you?
What are you doing here?
I-I'm... Ra-Raenef.
Oh. So, Raenef...
... what are you doing here?
Um... that is...
What?
Er... I'm...

That is...
...what happened was...
Well...
Um...
That is... I...
Argh! What's your problem?! Spit it out...!!
Waaah--if I admit I'm a demon lord, Eclipse will kill me!
Look, you little tramp--
Waaaah!
Damn...!
Raenef, you little tramp!
It's Raenef! He's the devil's child! Don't go near him--he's dangerous.
I don't wanna play with you, freak--go away!
Bwaa!!
...
I... I am...

...the demon lord.
What?!
You? You're the demon lord!?

Did you think I was going to buy that?! You moron!
I don't have time for your jokes!!
Seriously--I'm Demon Lord Raenef.
All right, cut it out!
If you're a demon lord, then I'm a god!
Wow...you're a GOD?!
NO! I was trying to make a point.
How could you possibly be a demon lord? Ow...
Is this what they call a verbal attack?
I'm not kidding. I'm the demon lord--
All right. Stay here and wait for a baby knight with a wooden sword to come and play with you.
I'm gonna go find myself a REAL demon lord.
Bish-bye!

Hey-- stop right there!
I said, hold up...
"If a knight should invade a demon lord's castle that knight must die, at any cost
"If the demon lord allows the knight to live, there will be devastating consequences for all demon lords, and the offending demon lord may be removed from his post."
U
I can't...
파지
파지
...let him leave!!
Stop!
Dark Arrow!!
!!

HOH
ZZZZZZ

BBH
Wha-what happened?
Did...you just do that?
How dare you insult a demon lord...
...you shall be given no quarter!
(demon lord language--learned it from Eclipse)

Dark Arrow...

Watch closely, kid...
...this is the power of the ENERGY SWORD.

What's an energy sword???
You...you...
...how can you work magic and not know what an energy sword is?!
I don't know... I guess it just hasn't come up. But I don't need to understand ENERGY SWORDS to work magic.
I just summon up the mezraez and configure it...
Energy Sword
Yes, yes, an energy sword is created in a similar way.
You configure the mezraez to envelop the sword!
Really? Neat.
...

Wait-- why am I teaching you this?!
All right, I'm leaving...
...and if you attack me one more time, you're gonna regret it.
Dark Arrow!
Krahhhk! You little brat!
Are you toying with me?!!
Dark Arrow!
Kyahk--
Dark Arrow! Dark Arrow!

Dark--
Stop, stop!
Over there! What's that?!
What kind of idiot would fall for that old trick?
Huh? Where?!
THIS kind of idiot!

Game over, kid...

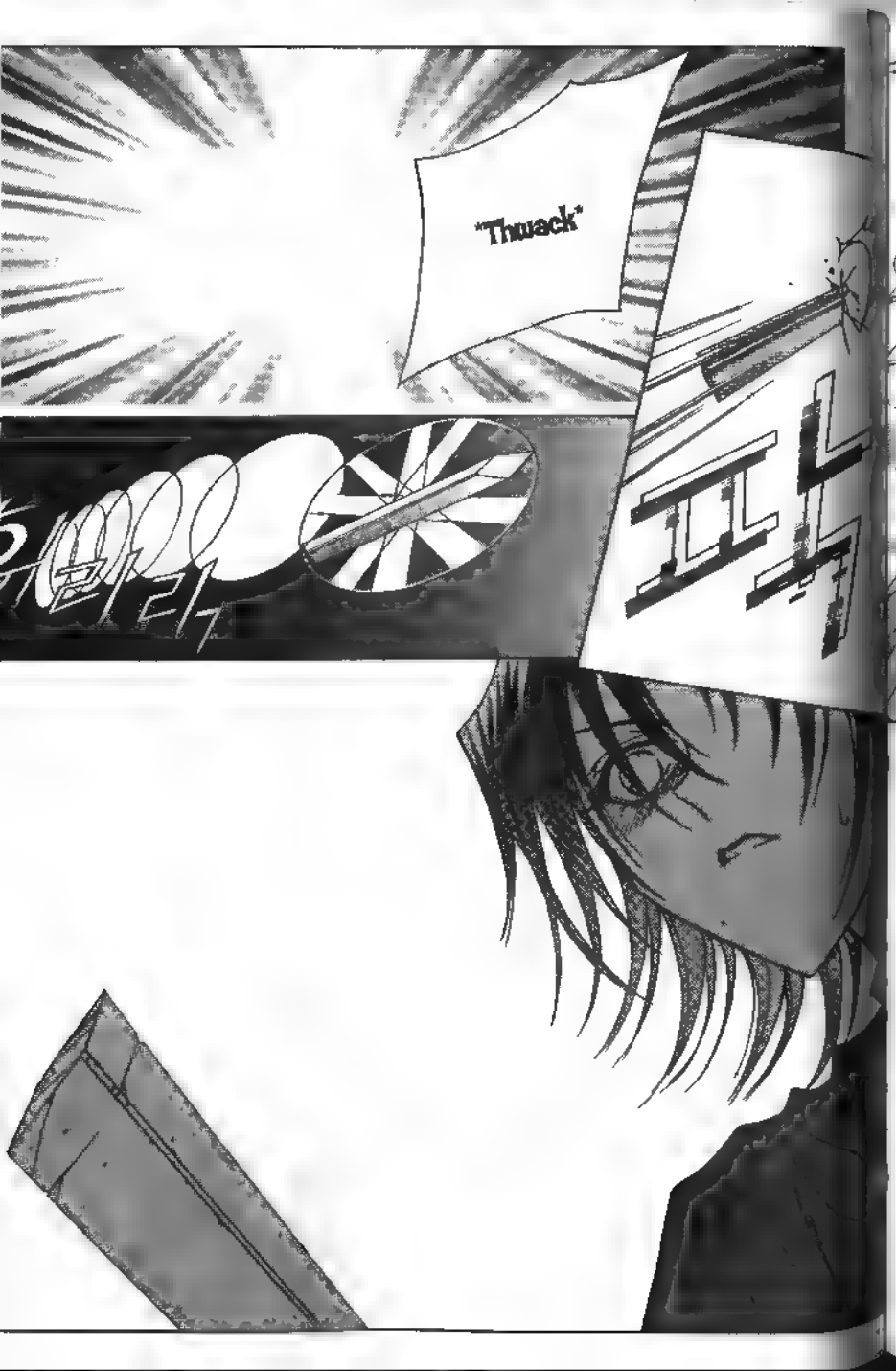
Eclipse!

Master Eclipse.
If you would continue to moderate the meeting...
!
Ah, okay...
...let's continue.
My mind wanders... I wonder if Lord Raenef is rubbing off on me...?

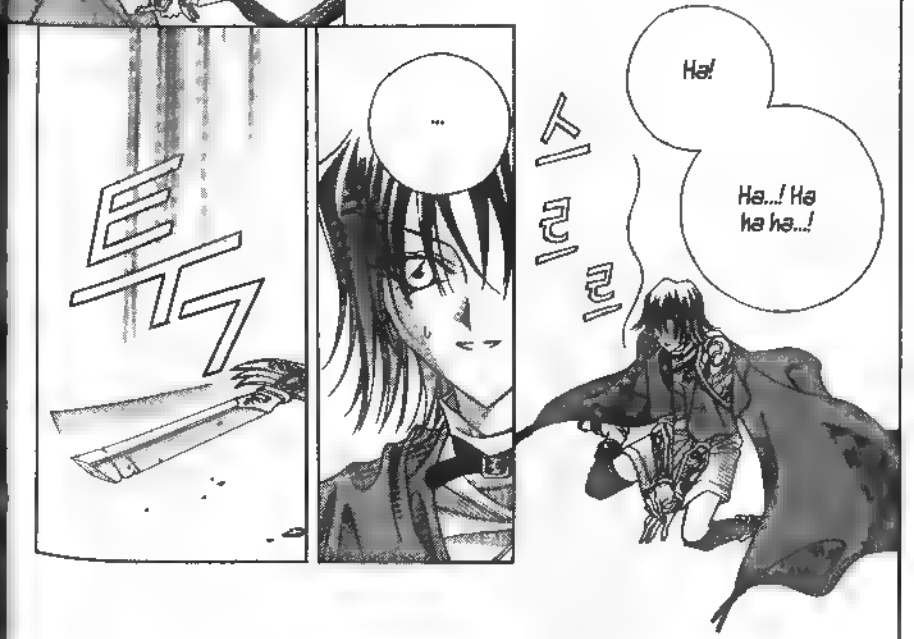
We've received word that the demon Taemuro of the Taein province is dead.
Reportedly, the clerics of Rasad are responsible.
Ah--is this the Taemuro who thought he was a demon lord? Good riddance.
Round up the clerics, curse their order for 100 years, and toss them over a cliff.
Good riddance...? I can't believe Eclipse just said that.
Yessir.
Lord Raenef... I wonder if you're keeping up with your studies.
Next is... the Hangma campaign in the Elresea area.
Since we're fighting elves, we cannot underestimate them.

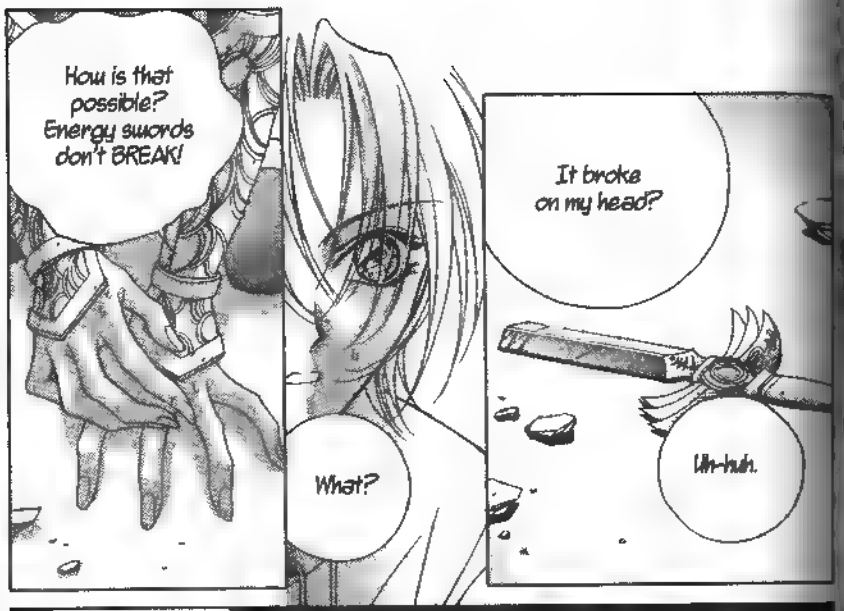
I hope the crusaders I summoned weren't too frightening for him.
Master Eclipse?
Yes, what is it?
...
Yes, sir.
I was reporting the progress of the Hangma campaign...
Thus far, three demons have perished, and it appears...
Gasp
Yes, go ahead...

...I said, continue.
Has no idea how he is behaving.
Ah...
...yes, sir.
If we don't act quickly, Elresea will...
I hope Lord Raenef is well.
Um...
...Master Eclipse, the meeting...?
Master Eclipse...?
...

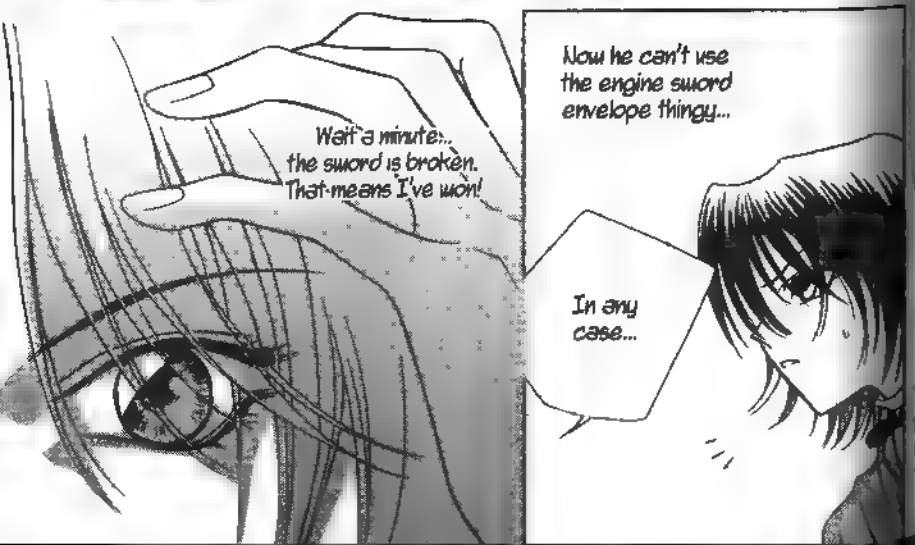

"Thwack"

Huh?
I'm not dead?


...
Ha!
Ha...! Ha ha ha...!


How is that possible? Energy swords don't BREAK!
What?
It broke on my head?
Uh-huh.

I've been called hard-headed...
But this is ridiculous!


Wait a minute... the sword is broken. That means I've won!
Now he can't use the engine sword envelope thingy...
In any case...

You!
You had the audacity to invade a demon lord's castle and attempt to disgrace him.
Therefore, you shall have a death worthy of your transgression.
Uh...
Of course, he learned this during demon lord language lessons... and had a hard time memorizing it.

If you kill me, the sheriff will come after you...
Yeah, I'm a demon lord. I'll be okay.

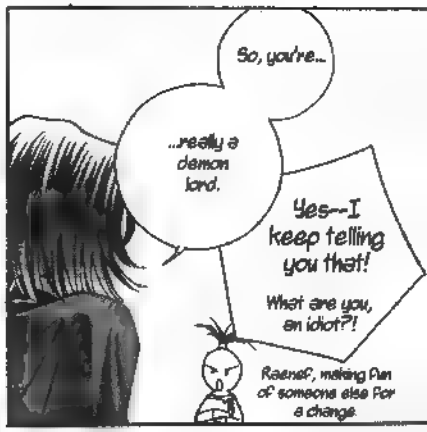
Whoa, wait a minute. Are you really going to kill me?
Of course.
If I weren't going to kill you, why would I bother to attack?
Hey! That's, that's circular logic!

You...
...came here to kill me first.
No more excuses! Dark Arr--
Ooh... Waaahh... Wait, wait a minute, please!

...
Stops without thinking...

Boy -- I came here to kill a Demon Lord, and now look at me!

I'm at the mercy of a mad demon lord... I'm dead.
What? Did you want to leave a will?


So, you're...
...really a demon lord.
Yes--I keep telling you that!
What are you, an idiot?!
Raenef, making fun of someone else for a change.

...

Then...
...I've got an idea.

Why don't you take me as one of your henchmen?
That way, you don't have to kill me.
In stories, demon lords have lots of subordinates, right?
Don't you think it would be good to take a knight as one of your henchmen?
The sound of wheels turning...

...
Okay. Let's do that, then.
Oh, okay.
Whew-- lucky thing he's none too bright...
Well?
Huh? What?
What are you waiting for? Go take the place of the guards you killed.

Yes, of course.

Great.

I'm going to go take a nap.

Yay...! Now I've got someone to play with until Eclipse gets back.

Well... Well, well...

It's like he's begging me to escape!

음냐

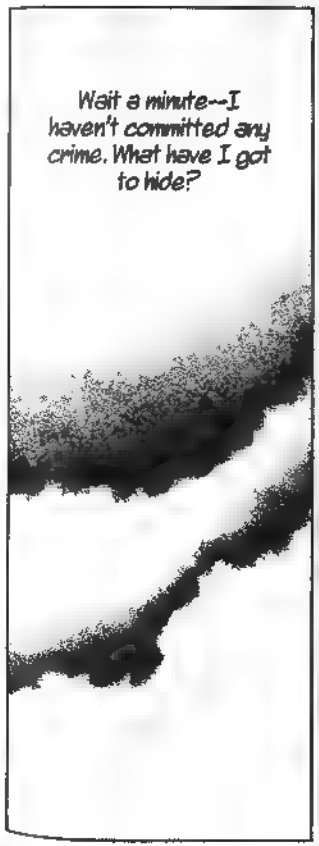
음냐

도 도 도...
Nyhaha!
Easy as pie!
Huh?

Mortal...

What business have you here...?

Um, that is...
Who IS this guy?


Wait a minute--I haven't committed any crime. What have I got to hide?

I heard...
...there was a demon lord here. But there isn't, so now I'm going.

...
...demon lord?
And you hoped to destroy him?
Sure...
...but I went inside, and dang it--no sign of any demon lord.
So, if you don't mind, I'll be on my way...

!
How DARE you...
A mere mortal...

He may be able to do elementary magic, but to battle a knight ...

Lord Raenef!
Lord Raenef!
Rae--!!

...
How bizarre... a knight has assaulted the castle, and he has no clue...

...I felt as though my heart had stopped.

스윽
휙
!
Rae...!!
...
Oh, dear... what can I do? I won't pull my hair out. And, well... I don't want to wake him up.

Mm...mm.
Eclipse... E...cli...
If...
...something had happened to Lord Raenef...
...
Well, nothing will happen to him...not while I'm around. I will...

...watch over him...always.
Z
Z
After several nights of fitful sleep...
Where did you go? Let me down! I'm afraid of heights. Hey—let me down, I said!